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August, 2019

VINYL

Talking to many of you, I know that cleaning out a house full of stuff can be a daunting task. Just think about all the formats of media you might have taking up space in your house. You probably have VHS tapes, DVDs, Cassette Tapes, CDs, and yes Vinyl just collecting dust. So much of our media just sits around because there are so many streaming platforms for music, TV shows, and movies on the internet. While some other formats might not have as much value, don't throw out your old vinyl just yet. It is making a comeback!



In fact, check out what an article entitled, "Revenue from US vinyl sales climbs to 30 year high," from the website Vinyl Factory says. "The Recording Industry Association of America (RIAA) has published its end-of-year report for 2018, with revenue from vinyl sales in the US reaching its highest point since 1988. Climbing 8% from 2017, revenue from vinyl sales now accounts for a more than one third of all physical formats."

Now I must admit, I am someone who has jumped on the vinyl bandwagon. There is a warmth to the sound of vinyl you don't get in other formats. I also enjoy being able to appreciate an album as a collective whole, listening through side to side, rather than jumping song to song. Like the old saying goes, "What's old is new again!"

Why do I share all of this in a church newsletter then? First off, sharing our interests and hobbies with one another helps us strengthen the body. So please take time to share with me and others in the church what collections or hobbies have interested you lately. Secondly, I want to use vinyl to illustrate trends change and go in and out like the tide.

We even see this in churches across the country. Trends in different ways of worshiping have changed throughout the decades and centuries. We don't do much Gregorian chanting any more, but there are churches that still do. We have screens in our church and other churches don't. We have a large cross section of people in our church that like many different types of worship and that's ok.

Just like some people like vinyl and some people like streaming their music, what matter at the end of the day is what the message is. The church, around the globe, must look past our trends to see what it is that truly remains forever. And when we look at what Peter writes in 1 Peter 1:25 we see what we need to remain faithful always and proclaim. No matter the trend or style of worship. This is what Peter writes, "But the word of the Lord remains forever." And that word is the Good News that was preached to you." So, please continue to pray for me that I would preach the Word faithfully, And finally, may we all remain faithful to the Word of God, such as when listen to a message about how we Live the Lord's Prayer, and then in all our thoughts, words, and actions!

In Jesus' Love,
Pastor Matt

P.S. If you have a vinyl collection you want to show me please let me know!

UPCOMING EVENTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, AND WAYS TO SERVE



Calling Servant Hearts

Have you been considering joining Resurrection Quilters? **Do come to our 1st of the season get-together Wednesday, September 4th at 9:30 a.m. in Room 200.** We'll close shop at 11:30 a.m. Neighbors, newcomers, friends, we're hoping for another big turnout to supply warmth & comfort for Lighthouse Family Ministry and Lutheran World Relief. See you then!

Oktoberfest: October 12 Dinner Auction

Where: Pilgrim Lutheran Church in Bellevue: Live & Silent Auction Fundraiser; Program: Mach One Jazz Orchestra, traditional Oktoberfest fare with all the trimmings. Enjoy the fellowship & fun bidding!



Do you have items to donate for the Auction? See Procurement Form posted by Room 107.

So far some items offered: built-in dishwasher, jewelry, deluxe treadmill, vinyl record collection, Volkswagen, Mariners tickets and more!

Matching Benefit for Lutheran Ministry Services NW

A new campaign to sustain **LMSN's chaplaincy ministry and expansion of its Prison Ministry** beyond King County to Monroe State penitentiary is offered by Amazing Grace Lutheran Church, Seattle in **Matching Funds up to \$154,000 through December 31, 2019 Dollar for Dollar; \$1=\$2.** Mark your calendar for the Annual Oktoberfest Auction to help with this new matching funds opportunity!



Fellowship Treats

Watch for the signup sheet to provide simple treats. Put in freezer labeled date you plan to provide.

Thank you Hosts!

LCMS STEWARDSHIP MINISTRY AUGUST 2019 ARTICLE

Have you ever noticed the subtle ceremony of receiving the offerings during the Divine Service? The offerings are collected in plates or baskets, and they are brought forward and given to the pastor or an assistant. The pastor turns toward the altar, and, as he slightly bows his head, the offerings are raised slightly to the Lord and placed on the altar or an adjacent table.



Why do we have this ceremony? And what does it teach us? For that is what ceremony does – it teaches, as the Augsburg Confession tells us what we need to know about Christ (AC XXIV, 1–3).

Originally, this ceremony included more than simply bringing forward what was collected in the offering plates. The elements for the Holy Communion – the bread and the wine – were brought forward with the offerings. The offerings and elements were lifted toward the Lord and placed upon the altar. The altar, now made a table, would be set for the Lord's Supper.

Gifts brought to the altar come from the sweat of His people's brow. They are the bread and wine, the fruits of His people's labor in this fallen world. After six days of labor and toil, the people are to bring a generous proportion for the Lord's work. Gifts set upon the altar are offered to the Lord for Him to take up and press into service for His gracious work.

For what is offered to the Lord from the sweat of His people's brow – the bread of anxious toil – comes back to us as the bread of life. The bread comes down from heaven that whoever eats this bread and drinks this cup will receive life through the forgiveness of their sins.

This is not unlike what the Lord did for His people in the Old Testament:

“You shall tithe all the yield of your seed that comes from the field year by year. And before the Lord your God, in the place that he will choose, to make his name dwell there, you shall eat the tithe of your grain, of your wine, and of your oil, and the firstborn of your herd and flock, that you may learn to fear the Lord your God always. And if the way is too long for you, so that you are not able to carry the tithe, when the Lord your God blesses you, because the place is too far from you, which the Lord your God chooses, to set his name there, then you shall turn it into money and bind up the money in your hand and go to the place that the Lord your God chooses and spend the money for whatever you desire – oxen or sheep or wine or strong drink, whatever your appetite craves. And you shall eat there before the Lord your God and rejoice, you and your household.” (Deut. 14:22-26)

What a blessing! God provides for us in all things. He provides bread from the sweat of our brows. He receives this from us in the first-fruits offerings we give to Him in thanksgiving and praise, and He turns these into spiritual bread. He gives this heavenly bread – the bread of eternal life – back to us so we might have joy.

So, the next time you are in the Divine Service, watch this ceremony in wonder. The offerings we have given to Him, the Lord gives back to us in His supper so that we may rejoice in the salvation He won for us upon the cross.



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BLOCK PARTY

Tuesday, August 27 | 5:00 - 8:00 p.m.
{ **FREE HOT DOGS BOUNCY HOUSE LIVE MUSIC NO COST RAFFLE** }
school supply donations appreciated